

Reference No. 6.20

THE LABOUR FORCE, AUGUST 1975

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SUMMARY OF RESULTS, AUGUST 1975 (a)

	Males	Females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)			
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	4,814.0	4,906.4	9,720.4
Not in the labour force	941.3	2,857.6	3,798.9
In the labour force	3,872.7	2,048.8	5,921.5
Employed	3,748.2	1,939.9	5,688.1
In full-time jobs	3,600.4	1,326.9	4,927.3
In part-time jobs	147.8	613.0	760.8
Unemployed (b)	124.6	108.9	233.5
Looking for full-time work	116.3	79.7	195.9
Looking for part-time work	8.3	29.2	37.5
RATES (Per cent)			
Labour force participation rate (c)	80.4	41.8	60.9
Unemployment rate (b)(d) –			
Original	3.2	5.3	3.9
Seasonally adjusted	3.9	6.6	5.0
(a) For a note on persons excluded see paragraph 6. Definitions of the categories of the population shown in the table are given on pages 2 and 3. (b) The estimated number of persons who did no work but would have taken a job during the survey week and who had been actively looking for work at some time in the four weeks before the interview week was 243,800. See the Appendix for further details. (c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group. (d) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.			

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the results of the population survey, which is carried out on a sample basis throughout Australia in February, May, August and November each year.

2. A summary of results is published each quarter, in advance of this more detailed bulletin, in *The Labour Force (Preliminary)* (Reference No. 6.32). The August 1975 statement was issued on 31 October. Preliminary estimates of unemployment are also published in advance of this bulletin in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (Reference No. 6.35). The August 1975 estimates were published on 18 September.

3. Since February 1975, additional questions have been asked concerning persons looking for work. Estimates derived from these questions are shown in the Appendix.

4. Although emphasis in the survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on the demographic and labour force characteristics of the population, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. Statistics from supplementary surveys are published in mimeographed bulletins which are available free on request. (See page 20 for a list of titles.)

The population survey

5. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

Scope

6. The estimates relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over except members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. For February 1975 the estimates also exclude about 17,000 persons aged 15 years and over who were in Darwin at the time of the survey.

Classification of the labour force

7. The labour force classification used in the surveys conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview takes place. The principal categories of the labour force appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.

8. The labour force comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 9 and 10.

9. Employed persons comprise all those who, during the survey week,

(a) did any work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons), or

- (b) worked fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
- (c) had a job, business or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc., or because they were on strike.

A person who had a job but was temporarily laid off by his employer for the whole week without pay is excluded, and is classified in the tables as unemployed. A person who did some work during the week, however, before he either lost his job or was laid off, is classified as employed. A person who held more than one job is counted only once, in the job at which he worked most hours during the survey week.

10. **Unemployed persons** comprise all those who, during the survey week, did no work at all, and who either

- (a) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for full-time or part-time work (including those who stated that they would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or believed no work was available, or had not already made definite arrangements to start work in a new job after the survey week), or
- (b) were laid off from their jobs without pay for the whole week.

A person who either lost his job or was laid off *during* the survey week, but did some work at his job during the survey week, is classified as employed.

In addition to unemployed persons as defined above there are other persons who, although not actively looking for work during the survey week, had been doing so in the previous three weeks and would have taken a job in the survey week had one been available. For further details see the Appendix.

11. **Full-time workers** are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. **Part-time workers** are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

12. **Persons not in the labour force** are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined. This category therefore includes persons without a job, business or farm who were not actively looking for work, and who, during the survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily idle,

permanently unable to work or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than fifteen hours without pay in a family business during the survey week is also classified as not in the labour force.

Industry classification

13. In quarterly and annual *Labour Force* bulletins prior to November 1972 the industry estimates were based on the Classification of Industries used at the 1961 and 1966 population censuses. As from November 1972 industry has been classified according to the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification* (ASIC). Estimates for particular industries for November 1972 and later periods are not, therefore, directly comparable with those for August 1972 and earlier periods.

14. During the changeover to the use of ASIC, industry was classified according to both ASIC and the 1966 Population Census Classification for five consecutive surveys (August 1971 to August 1972). An indication of the relationship between the two classifications was given by Tables 8, 9 and 21 in the combined November 1972 and February 1973 issue of this bulletin.

Reliability of the estimates

15. Very small estimates shown in this bulletin should be used with caution as they are subject to high relative standard errors. It is particularly important that the likely standard errors of such estimates be kept in mind. For example, although the number of persons who had arrived in Australia in the period January 1974 to August 1975 and who were unemployed in August 1975 is given as 6,200 (see Table 3) this is not a precise measure; the approximate standard error of this estimate suggests that there are about nineteen chances in twenty that the figure obtained from a complete enumeration would have been within the wide range of 4,200 to 8,200. The corresponding estimated percentage (6.6) is subject to almost the same relative sampling variability as is the estimate of the number unemployed. For further details concerning standard errors see the Technical Note, page 17.

Revision of estimates

16. The survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex. As a consequence, when the population estimates are revised it becomes necessary to revise the labour force estimates also.

17. Estimates shown in this bulletin have been calculated by using population estimates based on the results of the 1971 population census. Prior to the May 1975 issue of this bulletin, published estimates were based on population estimates derived from 1966 census

results. Estimates of the population aged 15 years and over classified by employment status from February 1964 to May 1975 on the revised basis were shown in Table 1 of the May 1975 issue.

18. All labour force estimates for the period from February 1973 have been calculated on the revised basis and are available on request. For the period August 1966 to November 1972 only the principal labour force categories have been revised. Revisions to rates (e.g. labour force participation rates, unemployment rates), percentage distributions (e.g. by industry) and averages (e.g. duration of unemployment, average hours worked) have been negligible.

Differences between population census and population survey estimates

19. The results of the 1971 population census, which have been published in a series of bulletins entitled *Summary of Population* (Reference No. 2.83), show that the census labour force estimates differ substantially from the corresponding estimates derived from the population surveys of May and August 1971.

20. The definition of the labour force used in the population census is similar to that used in the survey (see paragraphs 7 to 10). However, evidence from census post-enumeration surveys indicates that the personal interview approach, as used in the quarterly survey, tends to identify a larger number of persons as being in the labour force than does the filling in of the questions on the census schedule by the householder, and that this tendency increased between the 1966 and 1971 censuses.

21. These considerations should be borne in mind if comparisons of the total labour force or of labour force participation rates are made between the 1971 census and the 1971 labour force survey estimates.

Estimates for earlier periods

22. Except for Tables 1, 4, 13 and 18, the tables in this bulletin give details only for August 1975. A wider range of detailed estimates for each quarter from February 1964 to November 1972 has been published in bulletins entitled *The Labour Force* (all Reference No. 6.22) covering the period 1964 to 1968 and single years to 1972. Corresponding estimates for 1973 and 1974 will be published as soon as possible. Unlike the earlier estimates they will be based on population benchmarks derived from the 1971 census.

Discontinuity of series

23. The survey periods for February in the years 1971, 1972 and 1974 were later than in other years, and

as a consequence the estimates of the proportion of the population 15 years and over who "went to school" are correspondingly higher. No exact estimates of this effect are available; however, it may be conjectured that had these survey periods been one week earlier approximately 20,000 fewer persons would have been classified in the "went to school" category. In addition, in February 1974 the survey period in Queensland was delayed by a further week in order to avoid as far as possible the effects of the flood.

24. At the 1971 population census, trainee teachers (enrolled at government teachers colleges and in some cases enrolled also at other institutions) were for the first time classified as *not in the labour force*, and since then they have also been excluded from labour force estimates derived from the population survey. Exclusion of these students constitutes a break in the series between May and August 1971, the numbers of males and females excluded from the labour force in August 1971 being approximately 7,000 and 17,000 respectively.

25. Because of the effects of cyclone Tracy the population survey was not conducted in Darwin in February 1975. The estimates for this period therefore exclude Darwin. It is estimated that at the time of the survey about 12,000 males and 5,000 females aged 15 years and over were living in Darwin.

Seasonally adjusted series

26. Seasonally adjusted estimates for selected labour force characteristics are shown in Table 4. The methods used in seasonally adjusting these series are explained in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators*, 1975 (Reference No. 1.10). The series shown in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators*, 1975 are, however, based on the results of the 1966 population census. (See paragraph 17 above.)

Symbols used in this bulletin

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See page 17, paragraph 7.

† Affected by industrial dispute.

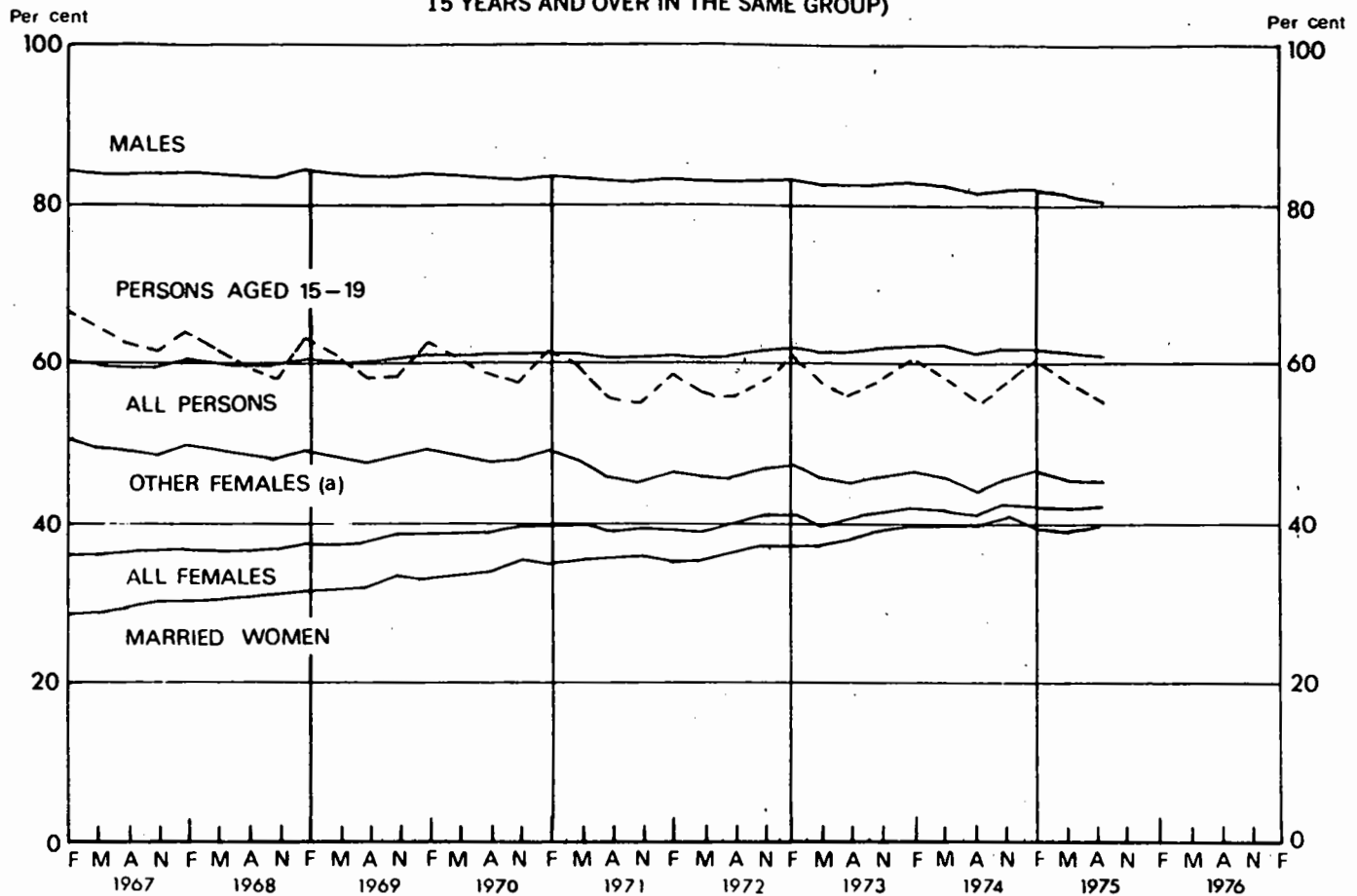
— Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

n.a. Not available.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE SAME GROUP)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE IN THE SAME GROUP)

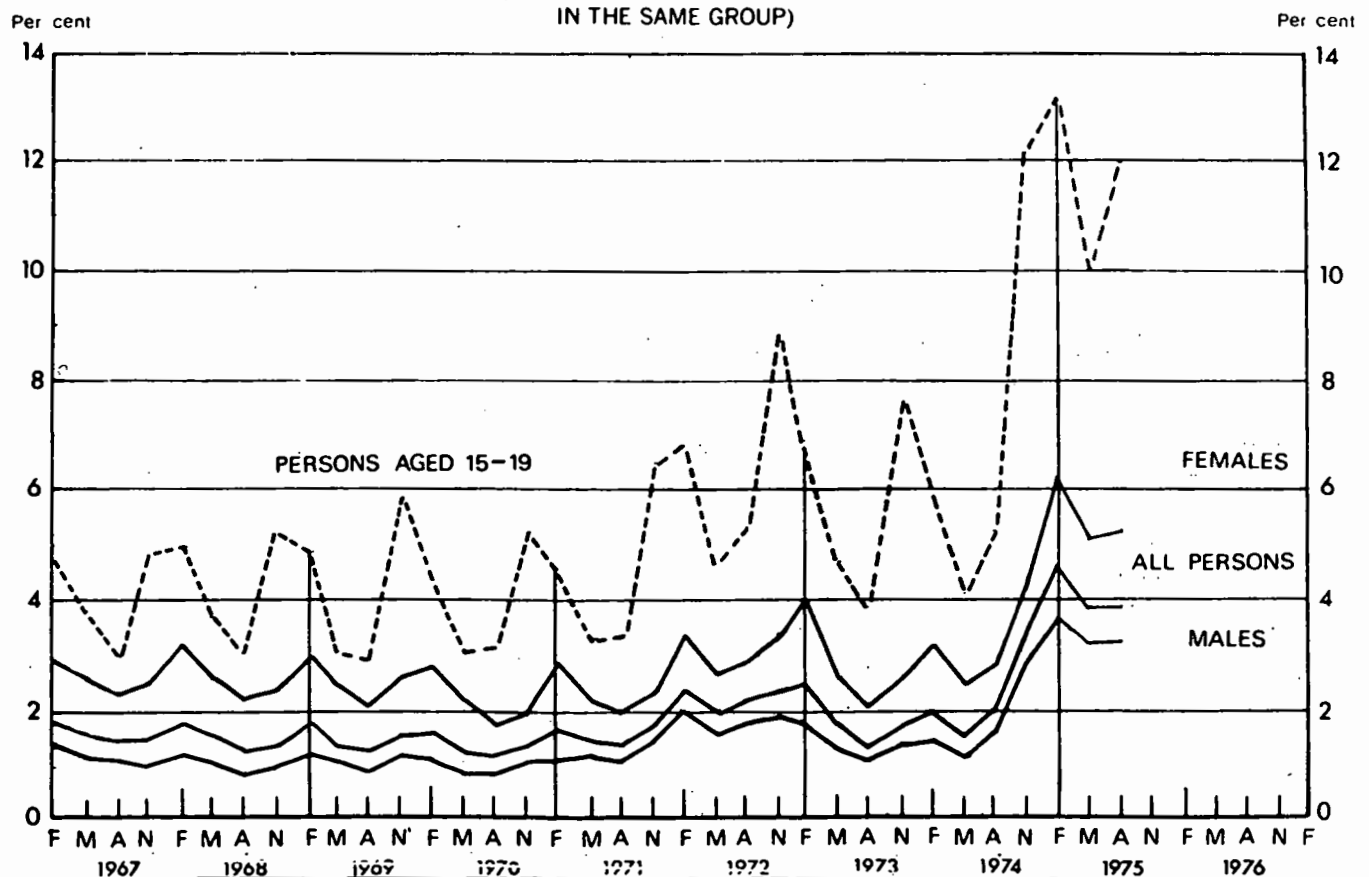


TABLE 1. - CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Month	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force (b) ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri-culture (c) ('000)	Other industries (c) ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (d)	Number ('000)	Per cent of population (e)		
MALES									
1974 -									
May	305.9	3,499.5	3,805.4	45.2	1.2	3,850.6	81.8	856.6	4,707.2
August †	308.0	3,456.9	3,764.8	60.8	1.6	3,825.6	80.8	910.3	4,736.0
November	299.5	3,476.7	3,776.2	111.4	2.9	3,887.6	81.4	890.1	4,777.6
1975 -									
February (f)	295.2	3,477.9	3,773.0	143.8	3.7	3,916.8	81.6	881.0	4,797.8
May	297.6	3,474.3	3,771.9	124.5	3.2	3,896.3	81.1	910.7	4,807.0
August	294.8	3,453.4	3,748.2	124.6	3.2	3,872.7	80.4	941.3	4,814.0
MARRIED WOMEN									
1974 -									
May	48.9	1,197.5	1,246.5	25.6	2.0	1,272.1	39.5	1,948.7	3,220.8
August †	51.0	1,194.9	1,246.0	30.5	2.4	1,276.5	39.7	1,941.3	3,217.8
November	61.1	1,218.4	1,279.6	38.6	2.9	1,318.2	40.6	1,927.0	3,245.2
1975 -									
February (f)	61.2	1,166.5	1,227.7	62.0	4.8	1,289.7	39.9	1,945.0	3,234.7
May	52.1	1,185.5	1,237.6	51.0	4.0	1,288.6	39.8	1,951.0	3,239.6
August	54.8	1,191.7	1,246.5	46.6	3.6	1,293.0	40.0	1,940.6	3,233.7
OTHER FEMALES (g)									
1974 -									
May	10.9	687.3	698.2	24.5	3.4	722.7	45.6	863.7	1,586.3
August †	10.4	670.6	681.0	24.4	3.5	705.4	43.8	904.0	1,609.4
November	11.6	684.3	696.0	51.0	6.8	746.9	45.7	888.9	1,635.9
1975 -									
February (f)	11.4	692.0	703.3	66.6	8.7	770.0	46.3	893.0	1,662.9
May	10.3	690.8	701.1	54.1	7.2	755.2	45.3	910.5	1,665.6
August	12.5	681.0	693.4	62.3	8.2	755.8	45.2	917.0	1,672.7
ALL FEMALES									
1974 -									
May	59.9	1,884.8	1,944.7	50.1	2.5	1,994.7	41.5	2,812.4	4,807.1
August †	61.4	1,865.6	1,927.0	55.0	2.8	1,981.7	41.1	2,845.3	4,827.2
November	72.8	1,902.7	1,975.5	89.6	4.3	2,065.1	42.3	2,816.0	4,881.1
1975 -									
February (f)	72.5	1,858.5	1,931.0	128.6	6.2	2,059.7	42.1	2,838.0	4,897.7
May	62.4	1,876.3	1,938.7	105.1	5.1	2,043.8	41.7	2,861.5	4,905.3
August	67.3	1,872.7	1,939.9	108.9	5.3	2,048.8	41.8	2,857.6	4,906.4
PERSONS									
1974 -									
May	365.8	5,384.3	5,750.1	95.2	1.6	5,845.3	61.4	3,669.0	9,514.3
August †	369.4	5,322.4	5,691.8	115.7	2.0	5,807.6	60.7	3,755.6	9,563.2
November	372.2	5,379.4	5,751.7	201.0	3.4	5,952.7	61.6	3,706.1	9,658.7
1975 -									
February (f)	367.7	5,336.4	5,704.0	272.4	4.6	5,976.5	61.6	3,719.0	9,695.5
May	360.0	5,350.6	5,710.6	229.6	3.9	5,940.1	61.2	3,772.1	9,712.3
August	362.1	5,326.0	5,688.1	233.5	3.9	5,921.5	60.9	3,798.9	9,720.4

(a) For a note on persons excluded see page 2, paragraph 6. (b) For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 7 to 12. (c) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 13 and 14. (d) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group. (e) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group (labour force participation rate). (f) Excludes Darwin. See page 4, paragraph 25. (g) Never married, widowed and divorced.

TABLE 2. - CIVILIAN POPULATION 15 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
AUGUST 1975

State or Territory	Employed (b)			Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)		Not in labour force (b) ('000)	Civilian population aged 15 and over (a) ('000)
	Agri-culture (c) ('000)	Other industries (c) ('000)	Total ('000)	Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (d)	Number ('000)	Per cent of population (e)		
MALES									
New South Wales	83.7	1,244.7	1,328.4	51.1	3.7	1,379.4	79.9	346.3	1,725.7
Victoria	67.3	951.8	1,019.1	31.9	3.0	1,051.0	80.8	249.2	1,300.2
Queensland	63.9	479.1	543.0	17.8	3.2	560.8	79.4	145.6	706.4
South Australia	31.0	317.5	348.5	9.9	2.8	358.4	80.7	85.8	444.2
Western Australia	36.4	286.5	322.9	8.7	2.6	331.6	82.1	72.1	403.7
Tasmania	10.3	100.6	111.0	3.8	3.3	114.8	80.4	27.9	142.7
Northern Territory	1.5	22.1	23.6	*	*	24.0	81.6	5.4	29.4
Australian Capital Territory	*	50.9	51.7	*	*	52.7	85.5	9.0	61.7
Australia	294.8	3,453.4	3,748.2	124.6	3.2	3,872.7	80.4	941.3	4,814.0
FEMALES									
New South Wales	18.8	672.8	691.7	39.8	5.4	731.4	41.3	1,039.8	1,771.2
Victoria	17.2	522.1	539.4	30.6	5.4	570.0	42.6	768.9	1,338.9
Queensland	13.6	245.8	259.4	15.4	5.6	274.8	38.5	439.4	714.2
South Australia	7.1	177.7	184.8	10.8	5.5	195.6	42.9	260.4	456.0
Western Australia	7.1	155.9	163.0	8.0	4.7	171.0	43.7	220.6	391.6
Tasmania	3.1	49.8	52.9	3.0	5.4	56.0	38.4	89.8	145.8
Northern Territory	*	11.8	12.2	*	*	12.7	50.4	12.5	25.2
Australian Capital Territory	*	36.6	36.6	*	*	37.3	58.7	26.3	63.6
Australia	67.3	1,872.7	1,939.9	108.9	5.3	2,048.8	41.8	2,857.6	4,906.4
PERSONS									
New South Wales	102.5	1,917.5	2,020.1	90.8	4.3	2,110.9	60.4	1,386.1	3,497.0
Victoria	84.5	1,474.0	1,558.5	62.6	3.9	1,621.0	61.4	1,018.1	2,639.1
Queensland	77.5	724.9	802.4	33.2	4.0	835.6	58.8	585.0	1,420.6
South Australia	38.0	495.3	533.3	20.7	3.7	554.0	61.5	346.2	900.2
Western Australia	43.5	442.5	485.9	16.7	3.3	502.6	63.2	292.7	795.3
Tasmania	13.4	150.5	163.9	6.8	4.0	170.7	59.2	117.7	288.5
Northern Territory	1.9	33.9	35.8	*	*	36.7	67.2	17.9	54.5
Australian Capital Territory	*	87.5	88.3	1.8	2.0	90.0	71.9	35.2	125.2
Australia	362.1	5,326.0	5,688.1	233.5	3.9	5,921.5	60.9	3,798.9	9,720.4

(a)-(e) See footnotes to Table 1.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. For an explanation of the standard error of the estimates see pages 17 and 18.

NOTE. State estimates for periods prior to November 1974 are available from the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics in each State capital.

TABLE 3. – CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) : EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA
AUGUST 1975

Birthplace and year of arrival	Employed (b) ('000)	Unemployed (b)		Total labour force (b)	
		Number ('000)	Per cent of labour force (c)	Number ('000)	Per cent of population (d)
MALES					
Born in Australia	2,736.0	89.2	3.2	2,825.2	80.8
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	313.0	7.9	2.5	320.9	73.7
1955 to 1961	221.9	7.1	3.1	229.0	90.1
1962 to 1967	197.4	8.9	4.3	206.4	88.0
1968 to 1973	226.7	8.6	3.7	235.3	89.8
Jan. 1974 to Aug. 1975	53.1	*	*	55.9	82.8
Total born outside Australia	1,012.1	35.4	3.4	1,047.5	83.6
MARRIED WOMEN					
Born in Australia	864.3	26.6	3.0	891.0	37.4
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	90.5	*	*	93.7	37.2
1955 to 1961	88.4	4.0	4.3	92.4	48.7
1962 to 1967	84.4	*	*	88.4	52.5
1968 to 1973	100.3	5.8	5.5	106.1	57.0
Jan. 1974 to Aug. 1975	18.5	*	*	21.5	49.5
Total born outside Australia	382.1	19.9	5.0	402.1	47.9
ALL FEMALES					
Born in Australia	1,432.2	79.0	5.2	1,511.2	41.0
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	113.3	*	*	117.1	33.2
1955 to 1961	111.3	6.9	5.8	118.2	49.6
1962 to 1967	112.4	7.0	5.9	119.5	53.1
1968 to 1973	135.9	8.7	6.0	144.6	58.1
Jan. 1974 to Aug. 1975	34.8	*	*	38.2	56.9
Total born outside Australia	507.7	29.9	5.6	537.7	47.5
PERSONS					
Born in Australia	4,168.2	168.2	3.9	4,336.4	60.4
Born outside Australia –					
Arrived before 1955	426.3	11.8	2.7	438.0	55.6
1955 to 1961	333.2	14.0	4.0	347.2	70.5
1962 to 1967	309.9	16.0	4.9	325.8	70.9
1968 to 1973	362.6	17.3	4.6	379.9	74.4
Jan. 1974 to Aug. 1975	87.9	(e)6.2	(e)6.6	94.1	69.9
Total born outside Australia	1,519.9	65.3	4.1	1,585.2	66.4

(a) Aged 15 years and over. (b) For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 8 to 10. (c) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (d) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace or year of arrival in Australia for such persons. (e) See explanation of these figures in paragraph 15, page 3.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 4. - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

Persons in the labour force (a)(b) ('000)									
Month	Males		Married women		All females		Total		
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	
1974 -									
May	3,850.6	3,851.3	1,272.1	1,279.0	1,994.7	2,010.8	5,845.3	5,859.6	
August †	3,825.6	3,845.9	1,276.5	1,283.3	1,981.7	2,001.2	5,807.6	5,846.3	
November	3,887.6	3,890.6	1,318.2	1,299.2	2,065.1	2,043.6	5,952.7	5,936.7	
1975 -									
February (e)	3,916.8	3,892.3	1,289.7	1,294.5	2,059.7	2,044.5	5,976.5	5,938.0	
May	3,896.3	3,897.3	1,288.6	1,295.7	2,043.8	2,061.2	5,940.1	5,955.6	
August	3,872.7	3,893.6	1,293.0	1,299.7	2,048.8	2,068.7	5,921.5	5,961.1	

Participation rate (a) (per cent)					Unemployed persons (a)(b) ('000)				
Month	Males		Females		Males		Females		Total
	Original (c)	Seasonally adjusted	Original (c)	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original Seasonally adjusted
1974 -									
May	81.8	81.8	41.5	41.7	45.2	49.8	50.1	56.6	95.2 104.9
August †	80.8	81.0	41.1	41.1	60.8	72.3	55.0	67.1	115.7 142.8
November	81.4	81.4	42.3	41.8	111.4	106.9	89.6	92.1	201.0 200.2
1975 -									
February (e)	81.6	81.2	42.1	41.7	143.8	122.3	128.6	101.9	272.4 222.3
May	81.1	81.1	41.7	42.0	124.5	139.5	105.1	120.0	229.6 259.5
August	80.4	80.7	41.8	42.0	124.6	151.0	108.9	136.8	233.5 295.3

Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)						
Month	Males		Females		Persons	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
1974 -						
May	1.2	1.3	2.5	2.8	1.6	1.8
August †	1.6	1.9	2.8	3.4	2.0	2.4
November	2.9	2.7	4.3	4.5	3.4	3.4
1975 -						
February (e)	3.7	3.1	6.2	5.0	4.6	3.7
May	3.2	3.6	5.1	5.8	3.9	4.4
August	3.2	3.9	5.3	6.6	3.9	5.0

(a) See page 4, paragraph 26. (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 8 to 10. (c) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group. (d) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group. (e) Excludes Darwin. See page 4, paragraph 25.

TABLE 5. - CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, AUGUST 1975

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Per cent of population (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	355.6	22.9	327.9	683.5	58.0	49.8	55.4	56.7
20-24	504.4	179.1	359.0	863.4	89.3	53.5	64.4	76.9
25-34	997.0	375.6	468.5	1,465.5	96.8	42.9	47.2	72.5
35-44	754.8	349.0	395.8	1,150.6	96.8	51.3	53.0	75.4
45-54	730.5	273.8	337.7	1,068.2	94.0	42.7	45.0	69.9
55-59	262.7	62.3	92.7	355.3	88.1	27.1	30.1	58.6
60-64	186.0	22.4	42.6	228.5	69.1	12.0	14.9	41.2
65 and over	81.7	7.9	24.7	106.5	17.0	3.3	3.7	9.2
Total	3,872.7	1,293.0	2,048.8	5,921.5	80.4	40.0	41.8	60.9

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definitions see pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 8 to 10. (b) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group (labour force participation rate).

TABLE 6. – LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, AUGUST 1975
(Per cent)

Age group (years)	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	59.1	55.3	57.2	54.4	57.9	56.1
20-24	90.4	64.9	77.8	89.6	62.9	75.8
25-34	97.4	44.0	70.7	97.1	56.3	77.9
35-44	97.0	50.1	73.4	97.4	60.1	80.2
45-54	94.3	42.9	68.0	96.0	52.4	76.8
55-59	88.6	28.8	57.2	92.1	36.9	67.2
60-64	69.3	13.8	40.1	73.4	19.5	47.3
65 and over	18.8	4.2	10.2	16.4	3.9	9.8
Total	80.8	41.0	60.4	83.6	47.5	66.4

(a) The labour force in each group as a percentage of the civilian non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Persons in institutions for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their usual place of residence, have been omitted, since it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace of such persons.

TABLE 7. – EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY HOURS WORKED (b), AUGUST 1975

	Males	Married women	Other females (c)	All females	Persons
NUMBER EMPLOYED ('000)					
Hours worked –					
0 (d)	225.7	98.7	42.4	141.0	366.8
1-15	87.1	189.0	66.5	255.4	342.5
16-29	125.4	210.9	37.3	248.2	373.6
30-34	127.4	99.1	35.3	134.4	261.8
35-39	395.4	177.1	157.0	334.2	729.6
40	1,567.9	356.7	276.5	633.2	2,201.1
41-44	184.1	32.1	28.7	60.8	244.9
45-48	315.1	24.9	21.0	45.9	361.0
49 and over	720.0	58.1	28.8	86.8	806.8
Total	3,748.2	1,246.5	693.4	1,939.9	5,688.1
Full-time workers (e)	3,600.4	751.7	575.3	1,326.9	4,927.3
Part-time workers (e)	147.8	494.8	118.2	613.0	760.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 9. (b) Actual hours worked during survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, accidents and industrial disputes; and work stoppages due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Excludes persons laid off without pay for the whole of survey week; these persons are classified as unemployed. (e) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 11.

TABLE 8. - AVERAGE HOURS WORKED (a), BY EMPLOYED PERSONS (b), AUGUST 1975

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (c)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Industry division (d) -					
Agriculture	52.3	29.5	36.5	30.8	48.3
Manufacturing	39.2	33.4	37.1	34.3	38.0
Construction	39.8	19.6	35.0	22.1	38.8
Wholesale and retail trade	41.1	30.1	31.8	30.7	36.8
Transport and storage	39.6	27.0	34.5	30.3	38.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	39.9	27.6	35.4	31.3	36.0
Community services (e) (f)	37.0	27.0	32.7	29.1	32.2
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	40.0	25.7	29.2	26.9	32.0
Other industries (g)	36.6	31.1	34.5	32.8	35.7
Occupation group -					
Professional and technical (f)	38.0	26.9	32.6	29.4	34.4
Administrative, executive and managerial	46.1	37.2	43.8	39.1	45.4
Clerical	36.7	28.4	34.9	31.1	32.9
Sales	40.7	30.7	29.7	30.3	35.3
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	49.8	30.0	37.4	31.4	46.9
Transport and communication	40.6	29.7	35.8	32.0	39.5
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (h)	38.7	34.0	36.6	34.6	38.2
Service, sport and recreation	36.9	25.0	29.1	26.6	30.3
Wage and salary earners	38.4	28.7	33.2	30.4	35.6
Other (i)	49.5	31.2	35.4	31.7	45.0
Full-time workers (j)	41.3	37.5	37.4	37.4	40.3
Part-time workers (j)	15.1	16.3	13.2	15.7	15.6
Total employed	40.3	29.1	33.3	30.6	37.0

(a) Persons with jobs who did not work during survey week have been included in the calculation of average hours worked. When recording hours worked, fractions of an hour are disregarded. This procedure results in a slight lowering of the average hours figures. (b) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 9. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 13 and 14. (e) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (f) In May and August each year estimates are low as average hours worked by school teachers are affected by school holidays. (g) Comprises other primary; mining; electricity; water and gas; communication and public administration and defence. (h) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers. (i) Employers, self-employed and unpaid family helpers. (j) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 11.

TABLE 9. - EMPLOYED PERSONS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS (b), BY REASON, AUGUST 1975 ('000)

<i>Reason for working less than 35 hours</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (c)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
USUALLY WORK 35 HOURS OR MORE					
Leave or holiday	244.0	69.3	45.1	114.4	358.5
Own illness or injury	117.6	25.7	14.6	40.3	157.9
Bad weather, breakdown, etc.	18.3	*	*	*	19.8
Began or lost job in survey week	8.6	*	*	4.3	12.9
On short time	6.6	*	*	*	8.4
Other reasons (d)	22.7	*	*	*	26.4
Total	417.8	102.8	63.2	166.0	583.8
USUALLY WORK LESS THAN 35 HOURS					
Preferred part-time work	126.8	462.7	107.2	569.9	696.7
Lack of work	14.3	16.0	7.5	23.5	37.8
Other reasons	6.7	16.1	*	19.6	26.3
Total	147.8	494.8	118.2	613.0	760.8

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 2, paragraph 9. (b) See note (b) to Table 7. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Comprises direct or indirect involvement in industrial disputes, including disputes not at place of employment.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 10. - EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY (b) AND HOURS WORKED (c), AUGUST 1975 ('000)

Industry division (b)	Part-time workers (d)			Total	Full-time workers (d)	Total
	Hours worked (c)					
	Under 16	16-29	30-34			
Agriculture	14.6	12.6	*	30.7	24.1	54.8
Manufacturing	16.9	17.5	12.3	46.8	193.2	240.0
Wholesale and retail trade	58.6	48.9	11.7	119.2	179.7	298.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	19.7	16.2	5.5	41.4	58.5	99.9
Community services (e)	51.0	51.1	26.4	128.4	163.1	291.5
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	47.2	30.5	8.5	86.1	58.3	144.4
Other industries (f)	21.7	15.2	5.4	42.3	74.8	117.0
Total	229.6	191.9	73.3	494.8	751.7	1,246.5

(a) See note (a) to Table 9. (b) See page 3, paragraphs 13 and 14 regarding the basis of industry coding. (c) See note (b) to Table 7. (d) For definitions see page 3, paragraph 11. (e) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (f) Comprises other primary, mining, electricity, water and gas, construction, transport and storage, communication, and public administration and defence.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 11. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, AUGUST 1975

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)				Per cent of labour force (b)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	37.5	*	44.6	82.1	10.6	*	13.6	12.0
20 and over -								
20-24	24.9	9.0	22.3	47.1	4.9	5.0	6.2	5.5
25-34	21.3	15.7	20.1	41.4	2.1	4.2	4.3	2.8
35-44	15.1	11.1	12.4	27.5	2.0	3.2	3.1	2.4
45-54	14.1	6.2	8.1	22.2	1.9	2.3	2.4	2.1
55 and over	11.6	*	*	13.1	2.2	*	*	1.9
Total 20 and over	87.0	42.9	64.3	151.3	2.5	3.4	3.7	2.9
Total	124.6	46.6	108.9	233.5	3.2	3.6	5.3	3.9

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 10. Additional questions concerning unemployment were asked for the first time in February 1975. See the Appendix for details. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 12. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, AUGUST 1975

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)			Per cent of labour force (b)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
BORN IN AUSTRALIA						
15-19	30.8	39.4	70.3	9.9	14.0	11.9
20 and over -						
20-24	20.2	17.3	37.6	4.9	6.0	5.4
25-34	14.3	11.6	25.8	2.0	3.7	2.5
35 and over	23.9	10.6	34.5	1.7	1.7	1.7
Total 20 and over	58.3	39.6	97.9	2.3	3.2	2.6
Total	89.2	79.0	168.2	3.2	5.2	3.9
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA						
15-19	6.7	5.2	11.9	14.9	11.2	13.0
20 and over -						
20-24	4.6	4.9	9.5	5.0	7.1	5.9
25-34	7.0	8.5	15.6	2.4	5.6	3.5
35 and over	17.0	11.3	28.3	2.8	4.2	3.2
Total 20 and over	28.7	24.7	53.4	2.9	5.0	3.6
Total	35.4	29.9	65.3	3.4	5.6	4.1

(a) See note (a) to Table 11. (b) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group.

TABLE 13. – UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS
(Per cent)

Month	State capital cities (b)			Other areas		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1974 –						
May	1.0	1.9	1.3	1.5	3.9	2.2
August †	1.6	2.7	2.0	1.6	2.8	1.9
November	3.2	4.1	3.5	2.4	4.8	3.1
1975 –						
February	3.9	6.0	4.7	3.3	6.8	4.3
May	3.4	5.1	4.0	2.9	5.3	3.6
August	3.3	5.0	3.9	3.1	6.0	4.0

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. See note (a) to Table 11. (b) The figures relate to persons residing within the boundaries of the relevant Statistical Divisions. Explanatory notes on the delimitation of urban boundaries and maps showing the boundaries of the capital city Statistical Divisions were published in *Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1971 – Census Bulletin No. 6*.

TABLE 14. – UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK AND LOOKING FOR
PART-TIME WORK, AUGUST 1975

	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
Looking for full-time work (c) –					
Number ('000)	116.3	25.9	53.7	79.7	195.9
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	3.1	3.3	8.5	5.7	3.8
Looking for part-time work (e) –					
Number ('000)	8.3	20.6	8.6	29.2	37.5
Unemployment rate (d) (per cent)	5.3	4.0	6.8	4.6	4.7

(a) See note (a) to Table 11. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (d) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in the same group. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs.

TABLE 15. – UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, AUGUST 1975
(Per cent)

Industry division (b)	Unemployment rate	Occupation group (c)	Unemployment rate
Agriculture	1.8	Professional and technical	1.4
Manufacturing –	4.3	Administrative, executive and managerial	*
Food, beverages and tobacco	4.9	Clerical	2.8
Metal products	3.1	Sales	4.1
Other manufacturing	4.5	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	2.4
Construction	4.9	Transport and communication	3.1
Wholesale and retail trade	3.9	Tradesmen, production-process workers	
Transport and storage	2.4	and labourers, n.e.c. (f)	4.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	2.6	Service, sport and recreation	5.0
Community services (d)	2.1		
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	5.5		
Other industries (g)	2.2		
Total (e)	3.9	Total (e)	3.9

(a) The unemployed in each group as a percentage of the civilian labour force in same group. See note (a) to Table 11. (b) Classified according to ASIC. See page 3, paragraphs 13 and 14. Based on industry of last job. (c) Based on occupation of last job. (d) See note (e) to Table 10. (e) Includes those looking for their first job. (f) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers. (g) See note (g) to Table 8.

TABLE 16. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC., AUGUST 1975

Duration of unemployment (b)	Age (years)		Looking for -				Total
	15-19	20 and over	Married	Not married (c)	Full-time work (d)	Part-time work (e)	
MALES							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	*	8.2	4.5	6.5	10.5	4.7	11.0
2 and under 4 weeks	10.1	15.9	8.8	17.2	23.7		25.9
4 and under 8	8.9	21.1	12.7	17.3	28.0		30.0
8 and under 13	6.4	16.1	8.9	13.6	21.2	*	22.6
13 and under 26	4.1	12.6	7.0	9.7	15.5	*	16.7
26 weeks and over	5.3	13.1	7.3	11.1	17.4	*	18.4
Total	37.5	87.0	49.2	75.4	116.3	8.3	124.6
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	11.7	12.6	12.5	12.2	12.4	11.1	12.3
FEMALES							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	5.1	9.8	7.9	7.0	7.5	7.3	14.8
2 and under 4 weeks	6.6	13.5	9.6	10.5	14.4	5.7	20.1
4 and under 8	10.3	11.6	8.2	13.7	16.3	5.6	21.9
8 and under 13	6.7	10.0	7.5	9.2	13.4	6.6	16.6
13 and under 26	7.3	9.2	6.0	10.5	13.2		16.5
26 weeks and over	8.7	10.3	7.4	11.6	14.9		18.9
Total	44.6	64.3	46.6	62.3	79.7	29.2	108.9
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	14.3	11.9	11.7	13.8	14.0	9.8	12.9
PERSONS							
Number unemployed ('000) -							
Under 2 weeks	7.9	18.0	12.3	13.5	18.0	7.8	25.8
2 and under 4 weeks	16.7	29.3	18.4	27.6	38.1	7.9	46.0
4 and under 8	19.1	32.8	20.9	31.0	44.3	7.6	51.9
8 and under 13	13.1	26.1	16.4	22.8	34.6	4.6	39.2
13 and under 26	11.4	21.8	13.0	20.2	28.7	4.5	33.2
26 weeks and over	14.0	23.4	14.7	22.7	32.3	5.1	37.4
Total	82.1	151.3	95.7	137.7	195.9	37.5	233.5
Average duration of unemployment (f) (weeks)	13.1	12.3	12.1	12.9	13.1	10.1	12.6

(a) See note (a) to Table 11. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of survey week. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from full-time jobs. (e) Includes persons laid off for the whole week from part-time jobs. (f) Periods of unemployment are recorded only in completed weeks; this procedure results in a slight lowering of the figures shown for average duration of unemployment.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 17. - UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a) : INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b)
AUGUST 1975
(⁰⁰⁰)

<i>Industry division (c)</i>	<i>Number unemployed</i>	<i>Occupation group (d)</i>	<i>Number unemployed</i>
Agriculture	6.6	Professional and technical	9.6
Manufacturing	55.7	Administrative, executive and managerial	*
Under 2 weeks	4.7	Clerical	27.9
2 and under 4 weeks	8.7	Under 4 weeks	10.0
4 and under 8 weeks	10.6	4 and under 8 weeks	4.6
8 and under 13 weeks	10.3	8 and under 13 weeks	4.4
13 and under 26 weeks	10.1	13 and under 26 weeks	4.6
26 weeks and over	11.2	26 weeks and over	4.3
Construction	26.0	Sales	20.3
Under 4 weeks	8.7	Under 4 weeks	7.6
4 and under 8 weeks	7.4	4 and under 8 weeks	4.6
8 and under 13 weeks	4.9	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	9.9
Wholesale and retail trade	45.8	Transport and communication	10.8
Under 2 weeks	5.0	Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, (n.e.c.)(f)	93.3
2 and under 4 weeks	10.2	Under 2 weeks	9.4
4 and under 8 weeks	9.1	2 and under 4 weeks	17.4
8 and under 13 weeks	9.5	4 and under 8 weeks	20.5
13 and under 26 weeks	5.9	8 and under 13 weeks	18.1
26 weeks and over	6.1	13 and under 26 weeks	12.3
Transport and storage	8.1	26 weeks and over	15.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	11.2	Service, sport and recreation	28.8
Under 4 weeks	4.1	Under 2 weeks	4.5
Community services (e)	16.4	2 and under 4 weeks	5.0
Under 4 weeks	5.9	4 and under 8 weeks	6.6
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	21.2	8 and under 26 weeks	7.8
Under 4 weeks	7.9	26 weeks and over	4.8
4 and under 8 weeks	4.2	Looking for first job (g)	29.4
Other industries (h)	13.1		
Looking for first job (g)	29.4		
Total	233.5	Total	233.5

(a) See note (a) to Table 11. (b) Duration of unemployment is not available for all industry or occupational groups because of high standard errors on the estimates. (c) See note (b) to Table 15. (d) See note (c) to Table 15. (e) See note (e) to Table 10. (f) See note (f) to Table 15. (g) Includes under 2 weeks, 4,500; 2 and under 4 weeks, 4,300; 4 and under 8 weeks, 7,600. (h) See note (g) to Table 8.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE 18. - PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE (a), BY MAJOR ACTIVITY ('000)

<i>Month</i>	<i>Kept house</i>	<i>Went to school, etc.</i>	<i>Retired or voluntarily idle</i>	<i>Permanently unable to work</i>	<i>Institutionalised (b)</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALES						
1974 -						
May	8.2	268.8	476.5	50.7	52.4	856.6
August †	10.8	298.8	495.6	48.4	56.7	910.3
November	5.6	273.3	501.3	54.4	55.4	890.1
1975 -						
February (c)	7.9	229.3	538.3	49.4	56.2	881.0
May	8.5	277.3	525.2	43.6	56.1	910.7
August	9.1	295.2	533.1	39.9	64.0	941.3
MARRIED WOMEN						
1974 -						
May	1,901.0	8.3	26.5	4.8	8.1	1,948.7
August †	1,886.6	7.9	33.9	*	9.7	1,941.3
November	1,859.9	10.7	36.0	9.1	11.4	1,927.0
1975 -						
February (c)	1,890.0	5.8	28.2	7.0	14.1	1,945.0
May	1,893.5	9.8	29.8	5.0	12.8	1,951.0
August	1,879.9	8.9	33.5	4.5	13.8	1,940.6
OTHER FEMALES (d)						
1974 -						
May	442.4	220.7	118.6	19.9	62.1	863.7
August †	430.4	248.2	142.4	16.8	66.1	904.0
November	420.8	234.1	146.8	18.8	68.5	888.9
1975 -						
February (c)	453.5	198.4	146.0	15.3	79.8	893.0
May	451.5	239.9	130.8	17.0	71.2	910.5
August	452.7	244.7	127.7	14.0	77.9	917.0
ALL FEMALES						
1974 -						
May	2,343.4	228.9	145.1	24.7	70.2	2,812.4
August †	2,317.0	256.1	176.3	20.0	75.9	2,845.3
November	2,280.7	244.8	182.7	27.9	80.0	2,816.0
1975 -						
February (c)	2,343.5	204.2	174.2	22.2	93.9	2,838.0
May	2,345.1	249.6	160.6	22.1	84.1	2,861.5
August	2,332.6	253.6	161.1	18.5	91.7	2,857.6
PERSONS						
1974 -						
May	2,351.6	497.7	621.7	75.5	122.6	3,669.0
August †	2,327.8	554.9	671.9	68.4	132.6	3,755.6
November	2,286.3	518.1	684.1	82.3	135.3	3,706.1
1975 -						
February (c)	2,351.4	433.4	712.4	71.6	150.1	3,719.0
May	2,353.6	526.9	685.8	65.6	140.1	3,772.1
August	2,341.8	548.8	694.2	58.4	155.7	3,798.9

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. For definition see page 3, paragraph 12. (b) Comprises inmates of gaols, patients in hospitals, sanatoria, etc., for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling. (c) Excludes Darwin. See page 4, paragraph 25. (d) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See page 17, paragraph 7.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.
3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. Standard errors for general application are given in Table A on page 18. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate for any particular survey. An example of the use of Table A is as follows : if the estimate for Australia obtained from the sample is 100,000 the standard error is 3,000; i.e. there are about two chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.
4. The quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. Final estimates of the standard errors of movement have not yet been calculated, but an indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter-to-quarter change in the Australian estimates is given in Table B on page 18. The estimates of standard error of quarter-to-quarter change apply only to estimates of change between two consecutive quarters. Changes between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive quarters, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Table B. Furthermore, changes during the period February to November 1972 will have greater standard error than indicated in Table B, because of the introduction of the revised sample. An example of the use of Table B is as follows : if the estimates for Australia for two successive quarters are 500,000 and 520,000 then from Table A it can be seen that the standard errors of these two estimates are of the order of 6,000 and from Table B that the standard error of the quarter-to-quarter change is 5,000. That is, there are about two chances in three that the quarter-to-quarter change lies between 15,000 and 25,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 10,000 and 30,000.
5. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.
6. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the percent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.
7. As the standard errors in Table A show, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates below the levels shown in Table A have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.
8. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

TABLE A
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W. No.	Vic. No.	Qld No.	S.A. No.	W.A. No.	Tas. No.	N.T. No.	A.C.T. No.	Australia	
									No.	Per cent of estimate
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	600	700	400	650	900	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	800	1,000	400	900	1,300	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,000	1,500	500	1,300	2,000	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,100	2,000	600		3,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	1,200	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	1,500	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see page 17, paragraph 7.

TABLE B
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF
QUARTER-TO-QUARTER CHANGE : AUSTRALIA
(Persons)

Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change	Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change
1,000	1,300	5,000	4,700
2,000	2,500	6,000	5,000
3,000	3,600	7,000	5,200
4,000	4,300	8,000	5,300

APPENDIX

Additional questions concerning persons looking for work

Estimates of unemployed persons in tables in the main body of this publication are based on actual activity during the survey week, that is, the week before the interview week. For detailed definitions see paragraph 10 on page 3. As from February 1975, persons who were not employed and had not looked for work during the survey week have been asked whether they had been looking for work during the three weeks before the survey week. In addition, all persons who

stated that they had been looking for work in the survey week or in the preceding three weeks have been asked whether there was any reason why they could not have started work (if they had found work) during the survey week. The additional questions will be asked in future surveys and when the results have been evaluated consideration will be given to the desirability of revising the definition of unemployed persons.

Estimates compiled from data obtained in the May and August 1975 surveys are shown in the table below.

PERSONS ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK AT SOME TIME IN THE FOUR WEEKS TO THE END OF SURVEY WEEK WHO COULD HAVE TAKEN A JOB IN SURVEY WEEK, MAY AND AUGUST 1975 ('000)

	<i>May 1975</i>			<i>August 1975</i>		
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Looking for –						
Full-time work	121.5	81.4	202.9	116.7	81.7	198.4
Part-time work	10.3	39.4	49.7	9.8	35.6	45.4
Aged –						
15–19 years	34.2	41.9	76.3	36.2	45.4	81.6
20 years and over	97.5	78.8	176.4	90.2	72.0	162.2
Total	131.8	120.7	252.5	126.4	117.4	243.8

POPULATION SURVEY REPORTS

Although emphasis in the population survey is placed on the regular collection, each quarter, of data on demographic and labour force characteristics, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The results of these surveys are published separately. Copies of the following publications are available free on request

<i>Title</i>	<i>Reference No.</i>
Annual Leave, August 1974	6.45
Assisted and Unassisted Migrants, August 1972	17.9
Australian Ex-service Personnel, Survey of, November 1966	15.1
Ex-service Personnel, Widows and Children, November 1971	15.1
Child Care —	
May 1969	17.2
May 1973	17.2
Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments —	
May 1968	17.3
May 1974 (Preliminary Statement)	17.16
Frequency of Pay, August 1974	6.46
Income Distribution, 1968-69 (Consolidated and Revised Edition)	17.17
Income Distribution, 1973-74 (Preliminary)	17.18
Internal Migration —	
1969-70 to 1972-73 (annually)	4.24
Years ended April 1974 and December 1974 (Preliminary)	4.24
Job Tenure —	
February 1974	6.44
February 1975	6.44
Journey to Work and Journey to School —	
May 1970	17.5
August 1974 (Preliminary)	17.4
Labour Force Experience —	
During 1968	6.26
During 1972	6.26
During 1974 (Preliminary)	6.38
Labour Mobility, November 1972	6.43
Leavers from Schools, Universities and Other Educational Institutions, Survey of —	
February 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967	S.B.679
February 1968, 1969 and 1970	6.9
February 1971 to February 1974 (annually)	6.9
Multiple Jobholding —	
November 1965	S.B.465
August 1966	S.B.564
August 1967	6.10
May 1971	6.10
August 1973	6.10
Non-School Study Courses, Survey of, August 1968	13.11
Persons Covered by Hospital and Medical Expenditure Assistance Schemes, August 1972	17.10
Superannuation, Survey of, Victoria, May 1968	6.19
Superannuation, Survey of, February 1974	6.42
The Labour Force : Country of Birth and Period of Residence, February 1972	6.31

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Power on 52 7911 extension 6503 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.